Amendment of Maternity Act

2131. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Maternity Act in the light of the specific recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission on maternity/paternity which were accepted by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir. (b) Does not arise.

Liquidation of Dues 2132. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Questions 2569, 1770 and 4209 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th August, 1997, 8th June, 1998 and 4th May, 2000, respectively, and to state:

(a) the last meeting of the Group of Ministers held on this issue and present status (in figures) of liquidation of dues; and

(b) number of workers involved and amount of dues, as per available records, under different heads *viz.* salary, P.F. gratuity etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The last meeting of the Group of Ministers which discussed the issue of non payment of statutory dues of workers employed in Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) was held on 10th April, 2000. Based on provisional information collected from various Departments/Ministries having administrative charge of CPSUs, the total outstanding dues of workers as on 31st March, 2000 was around Rs. 1736 crore of which dues on account of wages, Provident Fund, ESI, pension, gratuity and others was Rs. 268 crore, 737 crore, Rs. 112 crore, Rs. 343 crore, Rs. 117 crore and Rs. 158 crore respectively. This represents a decline of more than Rs. 100 crore compared to the outstanding dues of the previous quarter ending in December, 1999. Information regarding the total number of workers affected as a result of this is being collected from various Departments.